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Life Or Death Circumstances In Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's

One Amazing Thing

Abstract: The meaning of life is a philosophical question concerning the significance of life or existence in general. It has been the subject of much philosophical, scientific, and theological speculation throughout history. The meaning of life is in the philosophical and religious conceptions of existence, social ties, consciousness, happiness, and borders on many other issues, such as symbolic meaning, anthology, value, purpose, ethics, good and evil, free will, the existence of one or multiple Gods, conceptions of God, the soul, and the afterlife.

Scientific contributions focus primarily on describing related empirical facts about the universe, exploring the context and parameters concerning the how of life. In Soren Kierkegaard's novel *Stages on Life's Way* (1845), he states about a Leap, arguing that life is full of absurdity, and one must make his and her own values in an indifferent world. One can live meaningfully in an unconditional commitment to something finite, and devotes that meaningful life to the commitment, despite the vulnerability inherent to doing so.

In the novel *The Wisdom of Life: And other essays* (2009), Arthur Schopenhauer describes that what is the meaning of life by stating that one's life reflects one's will, and that the life is an aimless, irrational, and painful drive. Salvation, deliverance and escape from

suffering are in aesthetic contemplation, sympathy for others, and asceticism. Jiang, a Chinese woman. She loved a man is called Mohit. But there was border problem between China and India. So, Mohit has decided to leave her. Their love which comes to an end because of the border problem. So, Jiang's life has to be changed since that movement. She married someone.

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Life is too short and death is too long. People don't have all the time in the world, so go out and enjoy life as much as they can. Life is like a beautiful flower...flowers fade; people

they love either leave them or die. Death is the final wakeup call. Wake up and live before he knocks on our door. People do not believe in death. In the novel, *One Amazing Thing* Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni deals about the differences of Life style and culture in America and India. Calcutta is the Cultural Capital of India, which has been long known for its literary, artistic and revolutionary heritage.

The reservoir of Calcutta people is very comprehensive consisting not just of Bengali people, but also a number of other ethnicities. People of Calcutta in India can be divided into a number of categories, namely, Ghotis from West Bengal and Bengals from East Bengal, Biharis, Marwaries, Oriyas, Anglo-Indians, Chinese, Tamils, Telugus, Malayaleese, Gujaratis, Assamese, Marathis, Parsees, Nepalese and Caucasian Europeans.

Uma herself was going to India because of her parent's folly. They had come to the United States some twenty years back as young professionals, when Uma was a child. They had loved their jobs.(25)

Uma Sinha was born in Calcutta. She was going to India because of her parent's compulsion. They had come to the United States some twenty years back as young professionals, when Uma was a child. They had loved their jobs, plunging enthusiastically into their workdays. Camus wrote a novel *A Happy Death*(1971) in which he has mentioned not to wait for the last judgement as it takes place every day. The meanings of life for a 17 year old boy, is different than 27 year old woman, and on it goes. Writers go through many meanings during life and people who have fulfilling lives take ownership of the process of shedding old meanings and cultivating new ones.

And even though the boy loves his mother-loves her so much that sometimes he feels breathless, as when he's trying to blow up a stiff, new balloon-already he realizes she isn't that kind of pretty. She snores softly in the bed. (21)

The text, *One Amazing Thing* which mentioned about the life of a small boy. The boy loves his mother very much. He has no father. He has no affair with his mother, whose mother has many boyfriends after her husband's death. So, the boy's life, becomes sad. Life is the expression of the reason for being. The reason represents the intelligence that is within all things. Death is defined as the cessation of all vital functions of the body including the heartbeat, brain activity, and breathing. Death comes in many forms, whether it be expected after a diagnosis of terminal illness or an unexpected accident or medical condition. In the novel *One Amazing Thing* which deals about the fearness of death.

Warn them, Cameron whispered. There's a dead body in the water-fall from upstairs when the ceiling collapsed. She peered at him in shock. Until this moment, in accepting that she might perish, she had understood what is death. (87) All characters of the play were in the critical situation. There was the earthquake, and the water level also increasing inside the room. There was no power inside the room. People were shouting each other. Cameron saw a dead body inside of the room.

People were crying and shouting each other. A man began to pray the God. All are crying and thinking about their families. Their only aims to make their lives safe. Jhumpa Lahiri, author of *The Name sake* said that:

When an earthquake rips through the afternoon lull, trapping these nine characters together and their focus first jolts to their collective struggle to survive. There's little food. The office begins to flood. Then at a moment when the psychological and emotional stress seems nearly too much for them to bear, the young graduate student suggests that each tell a personal tale, "*oneamazingthing*" from their lives, which they have never told anyone before. And as their surprising stories of romance, marriage, family, political upheaval, and self-discovery unfold against the urgency of their life-or-death

circumstances, the novel proves the transcendent power of stories and the meaningfulness of human expression itself. (116)

The novel *One Amazing Thing* is a passionate creation about survival. The great joys of the book *One Amazing Thing* is the way that Divakaruni is able to develop the characters so completely through the little ways they interact with each other and how they handle themselves in the aftermath of the earthquake. Many people died in the earth quake. Everyone experiences death. Death and dying are an inevitable part of human life. Some people know ahead of time when their death will occur. In some cases, every person involved has a chance to gradually adjust and make peace with death, as much as possible. However, not everyone has this chance. Many deaths occur suddenly. Death can, and often does, strike without warning.

Many people around the world turn to religion to answer the questions about death and the afterlife. Tariq Husein, was a most religious person in the novel *One Amazing Thing*. He believes God. He was always carrying the Quran. When the earth quake came, praying the God for everyone. He had a lover name Farah. She belongs to a rich family. Tariq was a poor man and had no money. So, Farah left him and married someone. Death, which comes to the human in many ways. Jeff, a holy man talked about his friend Louie, a skeletal young man with AIDS, had been suffering for months. Jeff said that Louie was so afraid of death. He punched the bench in frustration. Nothing Jeff said could comfort him.

The play *One Amazing Thing* which talks about the critical situation on life and death. The every characters of the play is also in the do or die condition. Some people were died in the earthquake. The others also had fearness on death. They never know that when their lives comes to an end. When Uma put an arm around Cameron, his body felt colder than normal. His heart fluttered like a snared bird. Jiang, whose face was flushed and feverish, told Uma they should make Cameron sit upright; it might improve his breathing.

The human has no rights to kill anyone. But, the nature has all rights to kill the people. Nobody knows that when the nature would become violent against the human beings. There is coming many natural disaster in the world. And, it easily destroys the life of all living and unloving things in the world. The play *One Amazing Thing*, which is also describes about the natural disaster like earth quake, as well as floods. Besides all the characters of the novel living in the circumstances of life-or-death due to their personal problems.

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